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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/747,650	12/22/2000	Shingo Yamaguchi	49986-0503	9834

29989 7590 04/19/2005

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EXAMINER

PHAM, THIERRY L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/747,650

Applicant(s)

YAMAGUCHI, SHINGO

Examiner

Thierry L Pham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-12 and 14-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-12 and 14-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

- This action is responsive to the following communication: an Amendment filed on 11/1/04.
- Amendment to the specification has been received and acknowledged.
- Claims 1, 3-12, 14-19 are pending in application; Claims 2 & 13 have been canceled.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see pages 12-13, filed 11/1/04, with respect to claim 1 has been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claim 1 has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of newly found prior art references. The examiner agrees the cited prior art of record (US 5983200 to Slotznick) fails to teach and/or suggest a printer interface component includes a web server application configured to receive non-print ready electronic document information.

Claim Objections

Claims 3-5 are objected to because of the following informalities: "the payment component" should read as "a payment component". Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 17-18 are objected to because of the following informalities: "the wireless interface component" should read as "a wireless interface component". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 1, 3-8, 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iida (US 6671063), and in view of Slotznick (US 5983200).

Regarding claim 1, Iida discloses a printing interface apparatus (network facsimile apparatus 201, fig. 2) comprising:

- a printer interface component (network facsimile apparatus 201, fig. 2) that includes a web server (network facsimile apparatus 201 further includes a WWW server section 12, fig. 2 & 4) application configured to receive non-print ready electronic document information (WWW server section 12 further includes a file providing section 35 of fig. 3 for receiving documents/files from client computer, col. 35-58) over a wire connection (via a network as shown in fig. 3), wherein said printer interface component is configured to generate a print ready file (network facsimile 201 further includes a storage processing section 17 for converting the incoming print data into TIFF format, col. 7, lines 10-15 and inherently, before printing any received print data, the facsimile must convert the received data into printable color space and format, i.e. YMCK and PDF, PCL, PostScript, and etc) based on said non-print ready data electronic document information received over a wire connection, and to communicate said generated print ready file to a printing device (printer 6, fig. 2 & 4) for generating a hard copy of said one or more electronic documents.

Iida fails to teach and/or suggest a wireless communication component that is configured to receive electronic document information over a wireless connection and a payment component that is configured to control the printing of documents by requiring a monetary payment prior to generating hard copy of one or more electronic documents.

Slotznick, in the same field of endeavor for printing and network communication, teaches a wireless communication component (kiosk printer communicates with client computer via a wireless communication network as shown in fig. 3) that is configured to receive electronic document information over a wireless connection and a payment component (currency receiver 24, fig. 2) that is configured to control the printing of documents (printer 42, fig. 2) by requiring a monetary payment prior to generating hard copy of one or more electronic documents. Please also notes; a method/system for wireless communicating between a client computer and a facsimile/printer is widely available and known in the art.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made by modifying a network facsimile apparatus of Iida to include a wireless network communication protocol and a payment component as taught by Slotznick because of a following reason: (●) to allow a client computer to connect to the network facsimile apparatus wirelessly, therefore, increasing the network flexibility, for example, a user can requests a print job to be printed by a network facsimile from either inside the office and/or outside of the office; (●) by adding a payment component to the network facsimile, it enables a “fee for service” capability.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Iida with Slotznick to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 3, Slotznick further discloses the printing interface apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein: the payment component is configured as a magnetic card reader (stand-alone kiosk includes credit card reader, fig. 2) that is capable of reading non-physical payment information as payment for generating said hard copy of said one or more electronic documents.

Regarding claim 4, Slotznick further discloses the printing interface apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein: the payment component is configured to accept Cyber-Cash (i.e. payment information transmits via a wireless network to stand-alone kiosk, fig. 3, col. 16, lines 18-30) information over the wireless connection as payment for generating said hard copy of said one or more electronic documents.

Regarding claim 5, Slotznick further discloses the printing interface apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein: the payment component is configured to accept physical currency (stand-alone kiosk includes currency receiver, fig. 2) as payment for generating said hard copy of said one or more electronic documents.

Regarding claims 6-8, Blue tooth wireless communication (802.11 communication protocol at 2.4 GHz range) is widely known in the art.

Regarding claim 11, Iida discloses a printing interface (network facsimile apparatus 201, fig. 2) comprising:

- a server component (network facsimile apparatus 201, fig. 2) that includes a web server (network facsimile apparatus 201 further includes a WWW server section 12, fig. 2 & 4) that is configured to dynamically generate an electronic document for display on the wired device (i.e. HTML files, col. 4, lines 48-63) wherein the electronic document is based on the received electronic document file and includes a print request selector that allows a user to request a hard copy of said electronic file;
- a printer interface component (network facsimile, fig. 2 & 4) that is configured to communicate data, based on said electronic document file, to a printing device (network facsimile further includes a printer 6, fig. 2) for generating a hard copy of said electronic document.

Iida fails to teach and/or suggest a wireless communication component that is configured to receive electronic document information over a wireless connection and a payment component that is configured to control the printing of documents by requiring a monetary payment prior to generating hard copy of one or more electronic documents.

Slotznick, in the same field of endeavor for printing and network communication, teaches a wireless communication component (kiosk printer communicates with client computer via a wireless communication network as shown in fig. 3) that is configured to receive electronic document information over a wireless connection and a payment component (current receiver 24, fig. 2) that is configured to control the printing of documents (printer 42, fig. 2) by requiring a monetary payment prior to generating hard copy of one or more electronic documents. Please also notes; a method/system for wireless communicating between a client computer and a facsimile/printer is widely available and known in the art, and wireless device such as labtop/notebook are widely available and known in the art.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made by modifying a network facsimile apparatus of Iida to include a wireless network communication protocol and a payment component as taught by Slotznick because of a following reason: (●) to allow a client computer to connect to the network facsimile apparatus

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wirelessly, therefore, increasing the network flexibility, for example, a user can requests a print job to be printed by a network facsimile from either inside the office and/or outside of the office; (●) by adding a payment component to the network facsimile, it enables a “fee for service” capability.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Iida with Slotznick to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claims 12, 14-18: Claims 12, 14-18 are the methods corresponding the apparatus and recite limitations that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claims 1-8 and 11; therefore, claims 12, 14-18 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claims 1-8, and 11 above.

Claims 9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iida and Slotznick as described in claims 1 and/or 12 above, and further in view of Yacoub (U.S. 6452692).

Regarding claims 9 & 19, the combinations of Iida and Slotznick do not disclose wherein the system downloading and installing printer driver via a wireless communication network.

Yacoub, in the same field of endeavor for printing system, teaches the system for downloading and installing printer driver via a wireless network (col. 9, lines 1-16 and col. 12, lines 10-13).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Iida and Slotznick as per teachings of Yacoub because of a following reason: (●) to increase operating efficiency by downloading and updating the most and current compatible printer driver for printers.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Iida and Slotznick with Yacoub to obtain the invention as specified in claims 9 & 19.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slotznick (US 5983200), and in view of Forrest (US 6823172).

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Regarding claim 10, Slotznick discloses a printing interface apparatus (kiosk device including a printer interface, fig. 3) comprising:

- a wireless communication component (transmission system including satellite communication 68, fig. 3) that is configured with a receiving component (modem 46, fig. 3) for receiving electronic document information over a wireless network (receiving documents from remote device via using a wireless network, fig. 3), wherein the wireless component includes a front side and a back side (inherently, all modems include a front side and a back side); and
- a printer interface component (CPU 34, fig. 3) that is configured to communicate said electronic document information to a printing device (output device 42 including printer, fig. 3) for generating a hard copy of one or more electronic documents based on said electronic document information.

Slotznick discloses a wireless communication device, but fails to teach a method for shielding a receiving component to limit reception only to those devices that are located substantially in front of a wireless communication component.

Forrest, in the same field of endeavor for kiosk device using wireless communication components, teaches a method for shielding (an absorbing shield wall for limiting wireless signal transmission, col. 2, lines 1-5 and col. 6, lines 1-15) a receiving component to limit reception only to those devices that are located substantially in front of a wireless communication component.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made by modifying a kiosk device of Slotznick to include an absorbing shield wall to limit the wireless signal transmission as taught by Forrest because of a following reason: (●) to prevent wireless signal from leaking to unauthorized users; (●) to prevent other wireless signals from interfering with signals from kiosk device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Slotznick with Forrest to obtain the invention as specified in claim 10.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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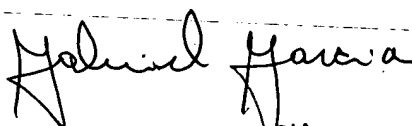
- U.S. 6326926 to Shoobridge, teaches a blue tooth communication protocol (IEEE 802.11 at 2.4 GHz).
- U.S. 2002/0067504 to Salgado, teaches a method for downloading and updating printer drivers using wireless network.
- EP 1056030 to Cross et al, teaches a digital copy machine including a payment component that allows plurality of users connected via network to print with a fees.
- US 5862321 to Lamming et al, teaches a wireless network, wherein a wireless device (PDA) communicating with multifunction fax machine.
- US 6732195 to Baldwin, teaches a wireless network, wherein a wireless device (PDA) communicating with multifunctional fax machine and to upgrade printer driver wirelessly.
- US 6772331 to Hind et al, teaches a wireless network comprising plurality of computers, printers, and wireless devices.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thierry L Pham whose telephone number is (571) 2727439. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30 AM - 6:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thierry L. Pham



GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER